

Remarks

Claims 22 and 23 are now pending.


In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner set forth a restriction requirement among the following groups of invention: (I) claims 1-9 and 14 in part (as relating to certain DNA molecules); (II) claims 1-9 and 14 in part (as relating to certain other DNA molecules); (III) claims 10 and 11; (IV) claims 12 and 13; (V) claim 15; (VI) claims 16-20 in part (as relating to certain compounds); (VII) claims 16-20 in part (as relating to certain other compounds); and (VIII) claim 21. Applicant hereby elects Group III, claims 10 and 11, which are drawn to protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9, for examination in the present application. This election is without traverse insofar as the elected invention is patentably distinct from the other inventions.

To expedite allowance Applicant has replaced claims 10 and 11 with new claims 22 and 23. Claim 22 corresponds to the allowed claim of the parent application. Claim 23 has been added to provide additional coverage. The original claims, including the non-elected claims, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Additionally, the title has been amended to reflect the elected subject matter, and the status of the parent application has been updated in the specification.

Applicant respectfully requests favorable action on the merits of the elected claims and consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed January 18, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 29, 2006


Linda S. Evans
Reg. No. 33,873

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08933-7003
(858) 320-3406